

**Amendments to the claims:**

Claims 1-32, 38-43, 49, 51, 52 and 70-72 were previously cancelled.

Claim 33 (previously presented): An electrolytically formed material which comprises a mixture of tantalum and titanium; and which is at least 99.9 weight percent tantalum and titanium.

Claim 34 (original): The material of claim 33 comprising at least about 50 weight percent titanium.

Claim 35 (original): The material of claim 33 comprising greater than 0 weight percent tantalum and less than or equal to about 12 weight percent tantalum.

Claim 36 (original): The material of claim 33 comprising greater than or equal to about 7 weight percent tantalum and less than or equal to about 12 weight percent tantalum.

Claim 37 (original): The material of claim 33 being in the shape of a PVD target.

Claim 44 (previously presented): A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The material of claim 44 comprising the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The material of claim 44 comprising the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 25 weight percent and less than or equal to about 50 weight percent.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The material of claim 44 comprising the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 50 weight percent and less than or equal to about 75 weight percent.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The material of claim 44 comprising the tantalum to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 75 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

Claim 50 (previously presented): A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the titanium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

Claim 53 (cancelled).

Claim 54 (previously presented): A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

Claim 55 (previously presented): The material of claim 54 comprising the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The material of claim 54 comprising the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 25 weight percent and less than or equal to about 50 weight percent.

Claim 57 (previously presented): The material of claim 54 comprising the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 50 weight percent and less than or equal to about 75 weight percent.

Claim 58 (previously presented): The material of claim 54 comprising the hafnium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 75 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

Claim 59 (previously presented): A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and

wherein the material comprises the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

Claim 60 (previously presented): The material of claim 59 comprising the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

Claim 61 (previously presented): The material of claim 59 comprising the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 25 weight percent and less than or equal to about 50 weight percent.

Claim 62 (previously presented): The material of claim 59 comprising the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 50 weight percent and less than or equal to about 75 weight percent.

Claim 63 (previously presented): The material of claim 59 comprising the niobium to a concentration of greater than or equal to about 75 weight percent and less than or equal to about 95 weight percent.

Claim 64 (cancelled).

Claim 65 (currently amended): ~~The material of claim 64 comprising A~~  
material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group  
consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one  
second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and  
wherein the material comprises the zirconium to a concentration of greater than  
or equal to about 5 weight percent and less than or equal to about 25 weight percent.

Claims 66-68 (cancelled).

Claim 69 (currently amended): ~~A material which consists essentially of at least one first element selected from the group consisting of titanium, tantalum, zirconium, hafnium, and niobium; and at least one second element selected from the group consisting of vanadium and nickel; and~~

~~wherein the material is~~ The material of claim 65 being in the shape of a PVD target.

Claim 73. (previously presented): A PVD target which consists essentially of Hf and Cr.